About this Release

This release provides information on NHS General Dental Services (GDS) registrations as at 31\textsuperscript{st} March 2011. Information on the participation (contact with an NHS dentist) of these registered patients can also be found in this release.

Key Points

- The level of the Scottish population (all ages) registered with an NHS GDS dentist was 73.2%, up from 72.0% as at 31 December 2010.
- The 6-12 age group had the highest level of population registered (95.5%) with an NHS GDS dentist.
- Among mainland NHS boards, NHS Ayrshire & Arran had the highest level of children registered (85.2%) and NHS Lanarkshire the highest level of adults registered (77.2%).
- People from the most deprived backgrounds make up the lowest proportion (SIMD 1-18.8%) of those registered.
- At Scotland level, the rate of participation in NHS General Dental Services among registered patients over the last 2 years was 80.3% for adults and 88.6% for children.
- Participation rates for children were highest in NHS Borders (93.0%) and lowest in NHS Western Isles (74.4%), while rates for adults were highest in NHS Borders (87.6%) and lowest in NHS Orkney (63.1%).
Percentage of children & adults registered with a GDS dentist in Scotland; September 2010 to March 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Children (&lt;18)</th>
<th>Adults (18+)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sep 2010</td>
<td>83.2</td>
<td>67.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec 2010</td>
<td>83.4</td>
<td>69.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 2011</td>
<td>84.2</td>
<td>70.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: ISD Scotland; MIDAS (Management Information & Dental Accounting System).

**Background**

Since June 2010, ISD has been reporting registration levels based on the geography of patients’ home addresses, rather than on the geography of the dental practice.

Participation is a measure of patient attendance at an NHS general dental practice for treatment, registration or other form of contact within the last two years as at 30th September 2010. This measure will further support data already available on NHS dental registrations and the introduction of non-time-limited registration policy.

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**Further Information**

Further information can be found in the Full Publication Report or on the ISD website.

**About ISD**

Scotland has some of the best health service data in the world combining high quality, consistency, national coverage and the ability to link data to allow patient based analysis and follow up. Information Services Division (ISD) is a business operating unit of NHS National Services Scotland - and has been in existence for over 40 years. We are an essential support service to NHSScotland and the Scottish Government Health Department and others, responsive to the needs of NHSScotland as the delivery of health and social care evolves.

**Official Statistics**

Information Services Division (ISD) is the principal and authoritative source of statistics on health and care services in Scotland. ISD is designated by legislation as a producer of ‘Official Statistics’. Our official statistics publications are produced to a high professional standard and comply with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. The Code of Practice is produced and monitored by the UK Statistics Authority which is independent of Government. Under the Code of Practice, the format, content and timing of statistics publications are the responsibility of professional staff working within ISD. Further information on ISD’s statistics, including compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics, and on the UK Statistics Authority, is available on the ISD website.